

POLYACRYLAMIDE SUSPENSIONS FOR SOIL CONDITIONING

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

WAL [0001] This application is a continuation in part of application Ser. No. 09/356,271, filed July 16, 1999, to Charles A. Arnold and Arthur Wallace and entitled *Small Particle Polyacrylamide for Soil Conditioning*, ^{Pat. 6,395,051} which claims the benefit of Provisional Ser. No. 60/093,269, filed July 17, 1998, the entire disclosures of which are included herein by reference. This application is also a continuation in part of copending application Serial No. 09/694,708, filed October 23, 2000, ^{abandoned,} which is a continuation of Ser. No. 09/290,483, filed April 12, 1999 and issued Oct. 24, 2000 as Patent No. 6,135,170, which is a division of Ser. No. 08/897,015, filed July 18, 1997 and now abandoned, both to Charles A. Arnold, the entire disclosures of which are also included herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

WAL [0002] This application relates to aqueous suspensions of polyacrylamide and its uses, in particular for soil conditioning.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Water-soluble polyacrylamide (PAM) and other water-soluble polymers are used as soil conditioners because they help form and protect soil aggregates by binding to clay particles in the soil. Among the benefits, this characteristic helps to control wind and water erosion, improve water infiltration and retention, improve soil aeration, and inhibit crusting or sealing. One use is in forestry, wherein granules of PAM are mixed into soil into which seedlings are planted. Water-soluble PAM is a long-chain molecule, which is distinguished from an insoluble cross-linked form of PAM. This disclosure relates to the water-soluble variety of PAM, which will also be referred to herein simply as PAM.